



Model Corina Grant makes a toast to Model Friesian beauty Valerie, an entrant in this year's Baileys Champion Cow competition which will take place on August 22 in Virginia, Co Cavan.

There's no udder beauty pageant...

by **Seán O'Riordan**

HOLY cow, what would Miley say?

It's a beauty pageant with a difference: those strutting their stuff for the judges are highly unlikely to be wearing swimsuits.

Another noticeable difference is that each contestant will possess four legs instead of the usual two.

Shapely legs will, however, be among the things judges will award points for and the females taking part will have to have a good-shaped back and well-proportioned udders!

The Baileys Champion Cow competition, which takes place at

the Virginia Show on Wednesday, August 22, is only open to the country's super milkers.

The final will feature 30 Friesians, all of whom are producing 11,000 litres of milk per year.

With a prize fund of €8,000 on offer, their owners are to be pampering and preening the bovines for days in advance. Entrants will undergo a shampoo, blow-dry, hair styling and even a little make-up artistry on the morning of the competition.

According to competition insiders, blusher may be applied to the udders to give the contestants a certain glow.

Cows that are bestowed the title Baileys Champion Cow can sell for five-figure sums and go on to travel to international competitions.

"It's serious business at this end of the competition", said one commentator. "The Italian cows are the ones to watch."

While no party piece is necessary as part of the competition process, a good personality and temperament is a must.

Event organisers have also confirmed that no advantage will accrue to those entrants who enjoy helping less advantaged cows or those who wish to work with calves or children!